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Milwaukee County Treasurer Recognized for Productivity Innovations by Public Policy Forum

The Public Policy Forum today announced that the Office of Milwaukee County Treasurer will receive its Salute to Local Government Award for Innovative Response to Tough Economic Times.

"These awards demonstrate that the spirit of public service is alive and well in the Milwaukee metropolitan area," said Milwaukee County Treasurer Dan Diliberti in response to the announcement. "I am proud of the work of our dedicated staff as well as our partners in the county's computers services division. These employees deserve credit for their hard work in implementing numerous cost saving and revenue producing initiatives while, at the same time, improving the quality of services to county residents."

In announcing the award, the Forum noted that the Milwaukee County Treasurer's Office initiated a series of quality improvements that have enhanced productivity, reduced expenditures and increased revenues. The advancements include innovations in the collection of delinquent property taxes while providing support and referrals to financially stressed homeowners; creating on-line access to unclaimed funds and delinquent property tax records; creating an on-line payment module; and streamlining the county's on-line banking and bank deposit processes. These improvements reduced telephone inquiries by 75%, increased revenues over 50%, improved productivity by 22%, and reduced staff.

Diliberti said that the current climate of change opens up new opportunities. "This is just the beginning," he said. "The Treasurer's office is already working with other county departments on several additional ideas for increased savings and revenue enhancements."

"The new leadership in Milwaukee County clearly embraces innovative thinking," added Diliberti. "Creative thinking is encouraged. It is an exciting time to be in government."

The Salute to Local Government Awards will be presented by the Public Policy Forum on Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at 7:30 a.m. at the Italian Conference Center, 631 E. Chicago St. Tickets are available at www.publicpolicyforum.org/events.php.